Recruitment of Defence Personnel from Orissa

4159. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quota fixed for Orissa every year for recruitment of defence personnel and the basis thereof;

(b) the steps being taken to increase recruitment in that State;

(c) whether the proportion of recruitment is low compared to other States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to remove the imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (e) While recruitment in the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy is made by selection on merit on all India basis, the recruitment in the Indian Army is made on the basis of Recruitable Male Population (RMP) of a State. The RMP for Orissa is 3.66%. Upto 1994-95 the intake from Orissa in the Indian Army was a little low; however with the effective measures taken like extensive tours by all BROs in tribal areas, dispensation in educational qualifications up to 8th Class education given to the tribals etc. there is no shortfall from Orissa for the recruitment year 1996-97.

Performance of Arms Industries

4160. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any critical analysis of the performance of the arms industry in the public and private sectors in the country to know the developments in the field of technology and the capability of becoming a self-reliant industry in order to reduce dependency on arms imports, for the armed forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the impediments in the arms industry in the country in becoming self-reliant and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to remove these impediments and to boost indigenous defence production to achieve self-reliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) The type of arms required by the armed forces are decided by them based on the threat perception and strategy. The defence production units, the armed forces and the Defence Research and Development Organisation interact on a continuous basis to evolve the strategy for indigenous development of arms or import with transfer of technology (TOT) for manufacture in the country with a view to move towards self-reliance.

2. The manufacture of arms in the country is vested only in public/ Government owned production units. The role of private sector is limited to manufacture of sub-systems/components. Therefore, developments in the field of technology and capability for manufacture of arms in the country is known.

3. Ten year plan for self-reliance in Defence Systems including the arms has been evolved with the aim to increase the ratio of expenditure on indigenously produced arms to the total expenditure on acquisitions in a year. The thrust towards selfreliance is planned to be made along three lines (i) sustaining existing systems through indigenisation of spares, (ii) to viable upgrading existing system and stretching their life and capability and (iii) inducting indigenised systems progressively and minimising the import of major systems. A Self-reliance Implementation Council (SRIC) has been formed with